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DRESSLERIA MORENOI (ORCHIDACEAE, CATASETINAE): A NEW SPECIES FROM COLOMBIA

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ABSTRACT

Dressleria morenoi H.G. Hills and M.H. Weber, sp.nov. (Orchidaceae, Catasetinae), is described from the Pacific slope west of Cali, Colombia. Color photographs and comparisons to *D. kalbreyeri, D. williamsiana* and *D. kerryae* are provided.

KEY WORDS: *Dressleria morenoi, Dressleria kalbreyeri, Dressleria kerryae, Dressleria williamsiana*, Orchidaceae, Catasetinae, Valle de Cauca, Colombia.

The recent taxonomic revision of *Dressleria* (Hills 2012) included a photo of an undescribed species from west of Cali, Colombia. Plants of this species became available due to the effort of Andrea Niessen from Orquídeas del Valle, Cali, Colombia. The coauthor supplied the necessary herbarium material and the species can now be named.

Dressleria morenoi H.G. Hills and M.H. Weber, sp. nov. **TYPE: COLOMBIA. Prov. Valle de Cauca.** Rio Digua Valley, old road from Cali to Buenaventura close to Anchicaya, ex. cult. Aug 2012, *M.H. Weber 319/2008* (holotype: K : isotype: K Spirit). Figures 1–4.

Dressleria morenoi is most similar to *D. kalbreyer*i (Hills 2000) but differs in the attachment of the lip to the column. In *D. morenoi* the lip is entirely adnate to the column, whereas in *D. kalbreyeri* the lip is adnate to the bottom third of the column. The sepals of *D. morenoi* are closer to the width of the petals than they are in *D. kalbreyeri* with narrow sepals. The low callus mound and the slit-shaped opening to the saccate portion of the lip are essentially the same in both species. *Dressleria morenoi* differs from *D. williamsiana* (Hills 2012) by the lack of the tongue-like callus and a lip entirely adnate to the column. It differs from *D. kerryae* (Hills 2000) by the shape of the opening and by the floral fragrance.

Dressleria morenoi fragrance is dominated by methyl salicylate whereas *D. kerryae* fragrance is 1,8-cineole and dimethoxy benzene.

Pseudobulbs fusiform to 9 cm tall and 2–3 cm wide. **Leaves** to 45 cm x 15 cm. **Inflorescence** basal, arranged in a loosely flowered raceme, to 45 cm. **Pedicels** to 4.0 cm. **Flowers** nonresupinate, saccate. **Dorsal sepal** 23 mm long and 8 mm wide. **Lateral sepals** 20 mm long and 8 mm wide. **Petals** 18 mm long and 10.5 mm wide. **Lip** entirely adnate to the column, 16 mm long and 11 mm wide, opening to the saccate portion of the lip by a transverse slit to 4.1 mm wide at the base of column, 4.6 mm wide at top, 1.6 mm high. **Column** 6 mm long, 7–8 mm wide at the base.

Known only from the Pacific slope west of Cali, Colombia. The only additional specimen is represented by the photograph (Hills 2012) of a previous collection from the same area made more than 10 years ago.

Figure 1. *Dressleria morenoi*. Photo by Juan Carlos Uribe

Figure 2. *Dressleria morenoi*. Close up of flower; note the wide sepals. Photo by Michael H. Weber

Figure 3. *Dressleria morenoi*. Profile view of the flower showing attachment of the lip to the column. Photo by Michael H. Weber.

Figure 4. *Dressleria morenoi.* Close up of callus mound. Photo by Michael H. Weber.

Dressleria morenoi is named for Mario Moreno Marín. Mario was born 24 November 1973 in the town of Bolivar, Valle del Cauca, Colombia. He grew up on the Colombian Pacific coast and went to school with the Chamí Indians, where he learned their language. His stepfather, Senen Rendon, was a renowned plant collector and it was from Senen that Mario learned about plants. Mario is an excellent tree climber, knows a lot about the Colombian orchids, and has started his own orchid nursery.

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